

\$3,000,000 NEEDED FOR POWER PLANT

Gen. Kingman Gives Estimate for Preliminaries on Great Falls Project.

DAILY WATER DRAFT EXCEEDS SAFE AMOUNT

Work of Increasing Washington's Supply Should Begin at Once, Says Chief of Engineers.

Gen. Dan C. Kingman, chief of engineers, in his annual report, makes an estimate of \$3,000,000 for preliminary work on the Great Falls power project and for increasing the water supply of the District of Columbia. He says that the appropriation, if made, is to be applied to the acquisition of land and water rights, purchase of material and other expenses.

"It will be noted," says Gen. Kingman, "that the money proposed to be expended upon the power plant project is to be furnished entirely by the United States, and only the part relating to the water-supply project is appropriated on the share-and-share principle."

Would Start Work Now.

"It is believed," he says, "that this is the proper procedure, inasmuch as the United States is the largest consumer of power from the project and should assume control of it as was done with the Washington aqueduct. It was shown in the report to the Sixty-second Congress that the maximum daily draft of water already exceeds a safe amount, for the present storage and pumping capacity of the water-supply system. In order to provide for contingencies, the work of increasing the water supply of the city of Washington should therefore be commenced without undue delay."

Supply System Taxed.

In a chapter in regard to the Washington aqueduct and its accessories Gen. Kingman says that the increased demand for water in the District due to the increase of population has within the last few years begun to tax the existing water-supply system to the limit of its safe capacity. To offset the increased demand steps were inaugurated in 1903 to prevent leakage and waste of water, and appropriations were made by Congress for meeting the water supply of the city government buildings. Investigations for a further increase in the water supply have covered a large area. He considered, the report says it is generally conceded that the choice lies between two projects: first, the Potomac river at Great Falls; second, the Patuxent river and the Potomac river at the District line.

All Water Filtered.

The filtration plant has been in continuous operation throughout the year, and the entire water supply of the city has been filtered. The bacteria have been reduced from an average of 280 per cubic centimeter in the McMillan Park reservoir to an average of 7 in the filtered water reservoir. The average turbidity has been similarly reduced from eleven to no parts per million. "The water furnished the city," says Gen. Kingman, "has been excellent throughout the year, since the average bacterial content was only seven per cubic centimeter."

An estimate of \$15,000 is submitted for widening and improving the Conduit road, which is the main artery of traffic now using it. Five automobiles are now being used in the year one with fatal result. Gen. Kingman says the road should be increased in width and suitable guards provided.

Potomac Improvements.

Gen. Kingman says that the project for the improvement of the Potomac river at this city adopted in August, 1912, is now completed and that it is now open to navigation and the general health of the community derived from the work has been most marked. Up to June 30 last there had been expended on the improvement the sum of \$3,237,202. The operations have resulted in making the Virginia channel 20 feet deep and about 500 feet wide for a distance of four miles, and the Washington channel a varying depth of from 15 to 25 feet for a distance of three miles, dredging the tidal reservoir to a depth of 8 feet over its entire area of 111 acres, in fully reclaiming Potomac in completing the inlet and outlet gates for the tidal basin; in constructing a masonry sea wall around the entire reclaimed area; in building a training dyke six feet above mean low water for a distance of 7,307 feet, and in removing dangerous rocks from Georgetown harbor.

The reclaimed area under the name of Potomac Park has been turned over to the office of public buildings and grounds and, Gen. Kingman says, has been developed into one of the most beautiful parks in this country. He says that \$20,000 can be profitably expended in the maintenance and improvement during the next fiscal year.

Anacostia River Work.

The report shows that \$733,308 has been expended to date on the project adopted in 1902 for the improvement of the Anacostia river from its mouth to the Anacostia bridge. As a result, a channel 1.8 miles long has been dredged from the mouth to the upper limits of the navy yard, and the material excavated has been used in the reclamation of the adjacent flats and riprap foundations for masonry sea wall have been completed from Glenboro point to the Anacostia bridge. The entire project is now about 80 per cent completed. The work already performed, Gen. Kingman says, has been a great benefit to navigation and also has resulted in the diversion of considerable traffic from the Washington channel of the Potomac, where conditions were rapidly becoming congested. Gen. Kingman says also that health conditions in the portion of the city bordering on the Anacostia river have been greatly improved.

"The flats are now needed for commercial purposes," says Gen. Kingman, "but for sanitation and health reasons should not be left in the present unfinished condition. The chief of engineers concurs in the recommendation of the District officer that pending the development of a commercial need for this reclaimed area it be converted into a public park, as was done with

the area reclaimed during the improvement of the Potomac river."

\$465,261 Still Needed.
The estimated amount required to complete the project is stated at \$465,261, and of that amount \$75,000 can be profitably expended during the coming fiscal year.

Regarding the reclamation and development of the valley of the Anacostia river from the Anacostia bridge to the District line, estimated to cost \$2,045,100 to complete, the report shows that \$130,898 has been already expended in building riprap foundations for the proposed sea wall, in dredging material and placing it on the area to be reclaimed and in acquiring lands necessary for the project. The work is reported to be about 5 per cent completed. It is stated that \$200,000 can be profitably expended during the next fiscal year in continuing the work now in progress and beginning the construction of the proposed earthen dam across the river at the line of Massachusetts avenue extended.

Would Replace Bridge.

Gen. Kingman repeats the statement made in the last two annual reports that the time has arrived when a new and substantial bridge to replace the antiquated Aqueduct bridge should be constructed, which will provide for the constantly increasing traffic. He says that while the present method of repair may prolong the life of the bridge, it is believed to be only a question of time when all of the old bridge will have reached a stage when that method will be impracticable even for temporary repairs. No reference is made to any of the pending bills providing for a new Aqueduct bridge.

AMERICAS TO FIX NEUTRALS' RIGHTS

Diplomats Name Commission to Arrange More Vigorous Joint Assertive Action.

Informal conferences were begun here by the special commission of the governing board of the Pan-American Union, with a view to working out plans for the solution of problems arising from the operations of belligerent warships in North and South American waters. The commission was appointed at a conference of diplomatic representatives of the twenty nations of the western hemisphere when resolutions were adopted expressing disapproval of operations of belligerent nations in American waters.

Authority was given the commission to study problems presented by the European war with a view to formulating practical steps having as their object a more vigorous assertion of the rights of neutrals. The commission consists of Secretary Bryan of the State Department, chairman, ex officio; the ambassadors from Brazil, Chile, Argentina, and the ministers from Uruguay, Peru, Ecuador, Honduras and Cuba.

Will Consult Jurists.

In its studies the committee will consult the six boards of jurists appointed by the last Pan-American conference to codify international law, one of which met in Washington and is headed by John Bassett Moore. The commission has before it for consideration several concrete proposals, including one by the Peruvian minister declaring that his government believes the time has come for joint action of all the American republics to guarantee the inviolability of their commercial routes. It suggested the adoption of a resolution declaring the Americas could not admit that commerce within the maritime area belonging to the two continents was subject to the contingencies of the present European war.

A boundary line equidistant from the American continents, both on the Atlantic and Pacific was suggested. Other proposals include limiting of the supply of coal to belligerent warships and stipulating that it be impossible for belligerents to sustain themselves for any length of time in American waters.

Urges United Action.

The conference yesterday afternoon was presided over by Secretary Bryan who expressed the deep sympathy of the United States for the neighboring republics in their plight and declared the innocent nations should not be made to suffer for the acts of belligerents. He was followed by diplomats, many of whom, under specific instructions from their governments, urged united action to restore trade of the hemisphere and to remove some of the burdens placed on commerce by the European war.

Resolutions were adopted asserting that the operations of belligerents in American waters worked injury to the neutrals and calling for a definition of the rights of both belligerents and of neutrals upon the principle that liberty of commerce should be maintained beyond a point indispensable for military operations."

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(Continued on Eleventh Page.)

RETURN OF HERRICK IS SIGNAL FOR BOOM

Former Ambassador to France Strong Favorite Among Republicans for Presidency.

HIS CANDIDACY BACKED BY THE CONSERVATIVES

Formal Announcement Planned by Ohio Society of New York. Others in Race.

Upon the landing in New York today of former Ambassador Myron T. Herrick, some time governor of the state of Ohio, the campaign for the republican presidential nomination for 1916 may be said to have begun. Elaborate and carefully laid plans have been made to launch formally the Herrick boom. The Ohio Society of New York ostensibly will be sponsor for the first definite presidential boom of the season of 1916, but the "favorite son" movement is not the only one to be undertaken in his behalf.

It is known in Washington, positively and specifically, that powerful and influential political interests are backing Mr. Herrick, and that these influences will be exerted in greatest seriousness. It is said by politicians here that the Herrick candidacy for the republican nomination will have important support in New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Illinois.

Whitman Under Test.

It is generally assumed that Governor Whitman of New York will be a candidate for the nomination as the "favorite son" of the Empire state. It is recognized, however, that his candidacy is at present a contingency dependent upon the success of his administration as governor.

It is said that if Gov. Whitman does not measure up to presidential capacity Justice Charles E. Hughes of the United States Supreme Court will be put forward by his friends to contest with Gov. Herrick for the support of New York in the convention.

Mr. Justice Hughes has recently stated over his own signature that "all this talk of my candidacy for the presidency is exceedingly distasteful to me." Politicians say, however, that the learned justice may not be allowed to have any say in the matter, as he is being drafted for a purpose. To be more specific, it is explained that Mr. Justice Hughes may be called upon by the anti-reactionary republicans to carry the banner of their faction.

It is generally recognized by republicans that Gov. Herrick will be the candidate of the conservative wing of the party. It is said that his principal backers will be found among that element who are taking courage from the success of the reactionaries and the disintegration of the bull moose party.

Prospective "Return to Form."

A prospective "return to form" is seen by some politicians in the proposed candidacy of Gov. Herrick. However, politicians go on to say that if there is a contest between the conservative branch of the republican party and the wing which is striving after ideals termed progressive, Mr. Justice Hughes will not be the only one in the field for the support of the progressive element. Former Gov. Herbert S. Hadley of Missouri, Senator William E. Borah of Idaho and Senator Cummins of Iowa would also lay claim to consideration upon this score.

It was said by politicians here today that the launching of the Herrick boom would speedily be followed by other aspirants for the presidential nomination, by which their casters into the ring. It is said that this will naturally follow the activities of the conservatives, which in turn will arouse the progressively inclined faction.

Herrick Shows Annoyance

When Told He Is Mentioned for Presidential Honors

NEW YORK, December 8.—Former Ambassador Herrick appeared to be annoyed upon his arrival here today on the steamer Rochambeau when he heard that he had been mentioned for the 1916 republican presidential nomination.

"I do not want to talk politics," he said. "I don't want to talk about such foolishness. If any credit is due me for the small part I have played I do not want to capitalize it. I did not come home to talk about myself."

"I am tired and very broke," he said. "I have just learned that the Ohio Society has engaged rooms for me at a hotel for which I will not have to pay. This is the best news I have heard in a long time."

"I want to make particular mention

(Continued on Eleventh Page.)



THE GOVERNMENT CLERK'S "SHOP EARLY" PROBLEM.

THE KAISER HAS PNEUMONIA, SAYS REPORT FROM BERLIN

LONDON, December 9, 3:05 p.m.—Emperor William is suffering from pneumonia which is combined with nervous depression due to overexertion, according to telegrams from Berlin forwarded by the Amsterdam correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company.

The message adds that the German emperor's doctors have advised him not to return to the front.

An official statement issued in Berlin last night said the kaiser was suffering from a feverish bronchial catarrh, but that he was able to give his attention to business.

AUSTRIA MAY GIVE UP TRENT TO KEEP ITALY OUT OF WAR

ROME, December 9.—"Prince von Buelow, the new German ambassador to Italy," says the Idea Nazionale, "comes to Rome authorized to negotiate the cession of the province of Trent to Italy in exchange for the maintenance of neutrality by Italy."

"It is asserted that Austria, on Germany's invitation, will proclaim the independence of Trent, where a majority of the population is Italian, and after this is done that Italy will occupy Trent."

"Austria will make a protest for the sake of appearance, but Germany will recognize the annexation of the province of Trent to Italy. Some persons even assert that Trieste will be proclaimed a free town under an Austrian protectorate."

LONDON BELIEVES GERMANS PLAN NEW DASH FOR COAST

Pick of Western Army Said to Have Been Concentrated for This Latest Effort.

LONDON, December 9.—In the western theater of the war, while it would appear still generally true that the Germans are more on the defensive than the offensive, the news that they have made a violent attack to the south of Ypres indicates that they have not abandoned the idea of breaking through to the French coast, and it is said that the pick of the German western army has been concentrated for this latest effort.

Day of Artillery Fire.
There was artillery fighting from the sea to the Ys during yesterday, according to the French official announcement given out in Paris this afternoon, and it is declared that all the positions won by the French during the past two days have been strengthened. The French claim to have made gains in the Aisne, in the Meuse and in the Argonne.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Rotterdam says that a bombardment of the Belgian coast between Ostend and Newport began at 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon in conjunction with land operations.

A correspondent of the Daily Express, telegraphing from the Belgian frontier, says: "The German divisional headquarters were removed from Roulers when shells began to fall in the town after the British had recaptured Passchendaele, eleven miles northeast of Ypres. This indicates a distinct and important advance by the allies."

force a cessation of fighting at Naco, Mex.
Three batteries of field artillery, with two machine guns, were ordered to report for duty at once, while orders were issued for other troops to hold themselves in readiness to move on an hour's notice.

A large quantity of shrapnel, in addition to solid shot, was ordered shipped on the special trains carrying the artillery.

Will Take Charge of Situation There, Reported to Be Grave.

SAN ANTONIO, December 8.—Gen. Tasker H. Bliss left San Antonio last night for Naco, Ariz., to take charge of the situation there.

Advices from Naco indicated a grave situation, and Gen. Bliss' orders were to assemble sufficient troops to en-

RETREAT OF RUSSIANS HALTED, SAYS BERLIN; IN A STRONG POSITION

Petrograd Claims Possession of Lodz Was No Longer Help to Strategy of Czar's Generals.

LONDON, December 10, 1 p.m.—That the retreat of the Russian army, following the German victory on Lodz, has been halted is indicated by today's official statement from Berlin, which says the Russians are now at a standstill in strongly fortified positions. Yesterday's Berlin statement had represented the Germans as in pursuit of the Russians. This may mean that another great battle is imminent in Poland.

The Russians continue to assert that their retirement from Lodz was a strategic necessity rather than a defeat, but it will take future developments to show whether this claim is correct or not.

MAY AGAIN ADVANCE ON WARSAW.

Twice driven back from Warsaw, the Germans again are in a position to advance on the capital of Russian Poland, and even the British press, which minimizes the importance of the taking of Lodz, points out that it is on the trunk line railroad between Kalisz and Warsaw, which line is now held by the invaders probably to a point considerably to the east of the occupied city.

Viewing the fighting in the vicinity of Lodz in retrospect it would appear that Germany had a crushing victory almost within her grasp, and lost it by not being able to unite her forces, while later the Russians were successful in gaining a dominant position which they could not hold.

Preparing Russian Mind.
That Lodz is in the possession of the Germans seems undoubted, and a Russian official report just issued apparently is preparing the public mind for the news by referring to the difficulty of defending the city, which gives to the Russian front an abandoned colour, and forecasts a reforming of the line.

Details of these mighty battles have yet to be written. The general fact that there has been fearful slaughter and intense suffering from the cold comprises about the total of the information received.

The Germans claim they are pursuing the Russians to the southward, southeast of Lodz. Several American correspondents were with the Russian army when the battle broke, but nothing has been heard from them for several days. Evidently they are under the hand of a strict censorship.

British military experts insist that three-quarters of the best material of the German army has been held in the western theater of the war throughout the campaign, and that the troops opposed to the Russians consist principally of second line organizations.

The situation around Lodz proves rather mystifying to the Petrograd correspondents of the London newspapers. They are disinclined to admit the retirement is a definite Russian retreat, and they say that the movement away from Lodz will be eventually shown to have been dictated by sound strategic motives.

All the dispatches, moreover, emphasize the tremendous cost in men of the latest German operation, "without any commensurate gains."

The Petrograd newspapers call their readers' attention to the fact that with the new year Russia will throw a huge army into this territory to hasten the decisive blow.

"It has been increasingly evident for some time that the Russian army is in a regular siege in the region of Lodz and Lovicz was not helping the Russians toward the delivery of a decisive blow on the enemy."

Handicap to Russians.
The handicaps of the terrain and incessant positional battles were calculated to detain a large Russian force in operations which did not further the main purposes of annihilating the Germans or driving them back into Germany.

"It was evident that sound strategy had been served by deploying the Russian troops into a new position for a special campaign of aggressive campaign. Immediate interest now centers south of Cracow, where the Germans are attempting to break through the Russian left flank."

The Post's Petrograd correspondent says: "All signs point to a regrouping of the hostile forces and the strengthening of the knots and tangles. Both sides probably need rest and recuperation."

A Petrograd dispatch to Reuters' Telegram Company, the date of which is not given, says: "German aviators, with headquarters at Czenstochow, continue to drop bombs on Lodz. According to the latest reports, six dispatches, the towns have been destroyed. Thirty-seven persons have been killed and 200 wounded."

German Troops at Cracow.

PETROGRAD, December 9 (via London).—The Bourge Gazette quotes "a high authority" as saying that the defense of Cracow, the Polish city, has not been attacked by the Russians, has been stiffened by the addition of German troops to the garrison.

"The German plan of using only German troops in the defense of Cracow, along the Vistula river and of sending the Austrians to the defense of Cracow has been changed," says this authority. "The need of reinforcements caused the Germans to withdraw Austrians from Cracow to Lodz. Hence the two armies are again mixed."

This same authority makes a statement in line with the official communication of today which indicated that the withdrawal of Russian troops from Lodz soon would be announced. He says that the importance of Lodz as a basis for military maneuvers has now been lost, owing to its position at the point of an angle extending into territory controlled by the enemy, and on account of the difficulty of maintaining communication with the rear.

These circumstances, he adds, make the continued occupation of Lodz more of a hindrance than a help, and when active operations in that section are resumed the Russian front probably will be strengthened.

Cracow Nearly Deserted.

VIENNA, via London, December 9.—A dispatch from Warsaw to the Secolo says the population of Cracow has been reduced to 20,000, the remainder having been sent away. There are provisions for four months at this place. The garrison is composed of Germans and Austrians. All the magnificent trees which surround the city have been cut down to afford space for the artillery, and various lines of fortifications and barbed wire entanglements have been constructed.

Endless trains of military convicts, continues the dispatch, are passing through Cracow westward, with new regiments of fresh troops, for the most part Cossacks and Siberians. The Vistula is beginning to freeze. Seventy thousand fugitives are reported to be in Cracow. Four months of the war has caused fearful devastation in Poland, and the inhabitants are suffering terribly.

OLD AGE PROTECTION TO FAITHFUL EMPLOYEES

Retirement of superannuated employees having now passed the experimental stage in the hands of foreign governments and private corporations in this country, Secretary Redfield of the Department of Commerce in his press release, today made public, expresses the opinion that the United States cannot longer afford to give protection in their old age to its faithful employees.

Such provision would improve the esprit de corps, would have its influence on the younger and more active class of employees and remove the incentive to seek other employment where the prospects are brighter.

"While the occasional loss of a superannuated employee, due to resignation, says the Secretary, "superannuation still increases, thus accentuating the disadvantages of an aged employee, the discouragement of a retarded rate of promotion for young and energetic employees and the feeling of unrest and perhaps dread of dismissal by those who are aware of the fact that the employment they are able to render does not reach by the average standard of the younger employees of the same class and grade."

Difficult to Obtain Admissions.

"While superannuation probably exists, it has been found difficult under present conditions to obtain admissions to those who have given many years of their lives to the government and who, if deprived of their income, would find it difficult to support their families."

"In both governmental and commercial centers retirement on some system of pensioning superannuated employees is becoming more generally recognized as both a practical and profitable measure. That such a policy can be carried out by the government so as to be ultimately a means of economy seems to have been demonstrated."

Retirement System Abroad.

"A system of retirement has been adopted by the leading governments of Europe, and its growth among business corporations indicates the value of the results accruing from the policy. It is found to effect not only immediate relief, but its benefits are seen in the actual conditions of the younger and more active class of employees."

"It moves much of the incentive to seek other employment, where the prospects are brighter; it induces many to render more nearly the maximum of service; and it expresses the esprit de corps when it is known that the faithful employees may expect to be cared for after they have become incapacitated in the service."

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